

STATE OF IOWA

CHESTER J. CULVER, GOVERNOR PATTY JUDGE, LT. GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION JUDY A. JEFFREY, DIRECTOR

NEWS RELEASE For Immediate Release Tuesday, May 26 For More Information: Elaine Watkins-Miller, 515-281-5651 elaine.watkins-miller@iowa.gov

Iowa Veteran Named Outstanding Teacher

Manson NW Webster educator named Teacher of the Year for veteran to teacher program.

DES MOINES, Iowa – After 22 years in the U.S. Air Force, including serving in Africa for Operation Enduring Freedom, Kyle Teeselink of Manson wanted to take on another adventure — teaching Iowa high school students.

He was honored on Monday as Iowa's first Teacher of the Year for the Troops-to-Teachers Program. The Iowa Department of Education recognized Teeselink during the Manson Memorial Day Celebration.

Teeselink is a first-year business instructor at Manson Northwest Webster High School, where he teaches students in grades nine through 12. He received his bachelor's degree in management and human resources from Park University in Parkville, Missouri, and his business education endorsement from Buena Vista University.

After retiring from the Air Force in 2006, Teeselink decided to pursue a second career in education because the service aspect of teaching appealed to him. The Troops-to-Teachers program provided financial assistance to help him obtain an lowa teaching certificate.

The Troops-to-Teachers Program is a joint effort between the United States Department of Education and the Department of Defense to assist eligible men and women serving in our nation's Armed Forces to seek second careers as teachers in America's public schools. Eligible military veterans that participate in the program may receive federal funding to help them meet state of lowa teacher certification requirements and bonuses for agreeing to teach in high needs lowa schools.

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The lowa Department of Education works with the State of Iowa Board of Education to provide oversight, supervision and support for the state education system, which includes public elementary and secondary schools, nonpublic schools that receive state accreditation, area education agencies, community colleges and teacher preparation programs. The department is committed to high levels of learning, achievement and performance for all students, so they will become successful members of their community and the workforce.